NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, dated 26 January 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Japan.

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**Title:** Act on Ensuring the Proper Domestic Distribution and Importation of Specified Aquatic animals and plants

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| **Reason for Addendum:** | |
| [  ] | Comment period changed - date: |
| [  ] | Notified measure adopted - date: |
| [  ] | Notified measure published - date: |
| [  ] | Notified measure enters into force - date: |
| [  ] | Text of final measure available from[[1]](#footnote-1): |
| [  ] | Notified measure withdrawn or revoked - date:  Relevant symbol if measure re-notified: |
| [  ] | Content or scope of notified measure changed and text available from1:  New deadline for comments (if applicable): |
| [  ] | Interpretive guidance issued and text available from1: |
| [X] | Other: Outline will be stipulated in the Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and other relevant rules (the Ordinance). Other contents of the Ordinance that are not described in this Notification and its Addenda will be notified to the WTO in accordance with notification under article five of the Agreement on import licensing procedures.  Final date for comments: Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification. |

**Description:** In order to prevent illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) catches from entering domestic supply chains in Japan, the bill for the Act on Ensuring the Proper Domestic Distribution and Importation of Specified Aquatic Animals and Plants (the Act) has been established in 2020 and is scheduled to enter into force on December 1, 2022. There are two separate measures to regulate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) catches stipulates in the Act: regulation on Japanese Domestic Market (Class I Aquatic Animals and Plants) and import regulation (Class II Aquatic Animals and Plants). Such Market-related measures are the primary responsibility for market states to combat IUU fishing in accordance with the relevant international agreed documents (e.g. "Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes" proposed by FAO and "International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing" published by FAO.

The Ordinance is scheduled to be promulgated in spring 2022. Main contents stipulated in the ordinance will be fish species\* subject to the Act and the details of Japan's catch documentation scheme under the Act. Other contents of the Ordinance that are not described in this Notification and its Addendum will be notified to the WTO in accordance with notification under article five of the Agreement on import licensing procedures.

\* Sea cucumber, Abalone and Glass eel are designated as Class I Aquatic Animals and Plants (Class I). Glass eel is scheduled to be applied from 2025 as Class I. Squid and cuttle fish, Pacific saury (Cololabis spp.), Mackerel (Scomber spp.) and Sardine (Sardinops spp.) are designated and as Class II Aquatic Animals and Plants.

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1. This information can be provided by including a website address, a pdf attachment, or other information on where the text of the final/modified measure and/or interpretive guidance can be obtained. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)